## MOLECULAR MARKER FOR MUSCLE STEM CELLS Abstract of the Disclosure

In accordance with the invention, Bcl-2 expression is a molecular marker for muscle stem cells. Thus, the invention provides methods for identifying and isolating muscle stem cells. In addition, the invention provides methods for determining whether a test compound modulates muscle stem cell differentiation and/or proliferation. Finally, the invention provides methods for expressing an exogenous coding sequence in a muscle stem cell.

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